

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 32 and ending on page 2, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to Fig. 1 of this application, the concept of a distributed object POS system 10 is illustrated. This POS system 10 comprises a POS application program 11 supplied by the system manufacturer; a set of control objects (CO) 12, each for a particular type of device (device class), such as a printer 21, a scanner 22, a cash drawer 23, or other type of peripheral device; and a set of service objects 13 (SO), each for a particular ~~type of device~~. To print from the POS application program 11, data is first sent to the printer control object, then to the service object for the particular make or model of the printer from which data will be printed, then to the operating system (OS) 14, and finally to the printer 21.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

The control object 32, the service object 33, and the interface object 38 of this POS control system ~~30-39~~ can be recorded as a computer program having commands for executing the various steps shown in Fig. 3. The program may be recorded on any suitable computer-readable data storage medium, such as a Compact Disc (CD) or other such tangible medium, or may be carried on an electromagnetic carrier wave signal that may be transmitted over a network or wirelessly. By installing the program in memory managed by the OS 14 of the computer and invoking the methods and properties of the objects, instances of the objects are generated and bound to execute the desired application program processes.